

**Joint Meeting Minutes**

**Board of Education**

**And**

**Board of County Commissioners**

**Hyde County**

**Monday, April 7, 2014**

Chairman Barry Swindell and Chairman Thomas Whitaker called the Joint Meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners and Board of Education to order at 3:00pm on Monday, April 7, 2014, in the Hyde County Government Center, Multi-Use Room, and the Ocracoke School Commons Room using electronic conferencing equipment.

The following Board of Education members were present on the mainland: Thomas Whitaker, Randy Etheridge, John Mullen, Diantha Coley and David Tolson; Superintendent Randolph Latimore; and, Finance Officer Ken Chilcoat.

The following Board of Commissioners members were present on the mainland: Earl Pugh, Jr., Dick Tunnell, Benjamin Simmons, III and Barry Swindell; Attorney Fred Holscher; County Manager Bill Rich; Clerk to the Board Lois Stotesberry; and, members of the public.

The following members were present on Ocracoke: Public Information Officer Sarah Johnson and members of the public.

Following opening prayer by Thomas Whitaker and pledge of allegiance the meeting was called to order.

Board of Education Chairman Thomas Whitaker moved to open the joint meeting of the Hyde County Board of Education and Board of Commissioners. Ms. Coley seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Etheridge, Mullen, Coley, Tolson and Whitaker; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.

Commissioner Pugh moved to open the joint meeting of the Hyde County Board of Commissioners and Board of Education. Mr. Simmons seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Tunnell, Simmons and Swindell; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – Fletcher.

**Agenda:**

Chairman Swindell asked for any changes to the April 7, 2014 Joint Meeting Agenda. There being no changes to the Agenda the meeting continued.

**Public Comments:**

Chairman Swindell called for comments from the public. There being no comments from the public, Chairman Swindell continued the meeting.

**Items of Consideration:**

Dr. Latimore explained proposed current State budget cuts. An additional \$332,532 small county supplemental funding from the State will be cut this fiscal year, effective July 1, and approximately the same amount over the next two years, totaling \$927,207 based on current enrollment. Dr. Latimore asked the Board of Commissioners to reinstate County local revenue funding back to the 2009 total of \$1,199,568. He reported that the Board of Education cannot expend any more fund balance and that

Reduction In Force (RIF) will occur at the end of this school year. The additional reductions include six (6) classified positions and two (2) teaching positions.

Ken Chilcoat, Finance Officer, presented the "Hyde County Board of Education Proposed Local Budget Request Year Ended June 30, 2015". Mr. Chilcoat reported that an increase of \$225,000 from the County will prevent losing more school positions. He explained the State's intent to discontinue tenure. Twenty-five percent (25%) of the teaching staff will be offered a four year contract and will get a \$5,000 bonus if they accept the contract. The Board of Education expects other teachers not offered the contract to take legal action against them, therefore increasing budgeted legal costs.

Mr. Chilcoat reported that last year the County appropriated \$48,000 to bring the Board of Education up to State level to consider them a low-wealth school system. The Board of Education expects to receive low-wealth school system funding from the State in FY2014-2015.

**Public Comments:**

Chairman Swindell called for comments from the public. There being no comments from the public, Chairman Swindell continued the meeting.

**Closed Session (none)**

**Adjourn**

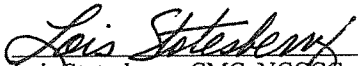
Board of Education Chairman Thomas Whitaker thanked the commissioners for providing for our children's educational needs. Randy Etheridge moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Coley seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Etheridge, Mullen, Coley, Tolson and Whitaker; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – None.


Commissioner Pugh moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tunnell seconded the motion. The motion passed on the following vote: Ayes – Pugh, Simmons, Swindell and Tunnell; Nays – None; Absent or not voting – Fletcher.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Minutes approved on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2014.

  
Lois Stotesberry, CMC, NCCEC  
Clerk, Hyde County Board of Commissioners

  
Barry Swindell  
Chair, Hyde County Board of Commissioners

Attachments: (none)